

Fiscal Year 2017 Survey of EPA's Environmental Liabilities and Clean-Up Costs at EPA Facilities

EPA is required to disclose to Congress, OMB and others on its annual audited financial statements the **estimated future costs** associated with:

- 1) Cleanup of hazardous waste and restoration of the facility when a facility is closed, and
- 2) Costs to remediate known environmental contamination resulting from the Agency's operations.

This survey is based on the accounting standards found in:

FASAB (a) SFFAS 5, *Accounting for Liabilities of the Federal Government*

FASAB (b) SFFAS 6, *Accounting for Property Plant and Equipment*

FASAB (c) Technical Release 2, *Determining Probable and Reasonably Estimable for Environmental Liabilities in the Federal Government*

FASAB (d) Technical Release 11, *Implementation Guidance on Cleanup Costs Associated with Equipment*.

This survey covers all property, plant and equipment **owned by EPA**. These items are tangible assets that (1) have an estimated useful life of 2 or more years, (2) are not intended for sale in the ordinary course of business, and (3) are intended to be used or available for use by the entity. These items include, but are not limited to; all EPA-owned buildings, land, motor vehicles, equipment, and furniture and fixtures whether it is Agency-held or in the hands of contractors. Information on leased buildings or other assets is only required if it is EPA's responsibility to repair, maintain the asset, or remediate or remove hazardous material from the facility. Costs associated with routine, ongoing disposals of hazardous materials should not be reported. Both parts of the survey provide a more detailed description of the information requested.

For each facility, please answer the questions below. Include dollar amounts for each type of liability if the amount is known or reasonably estimable. Summary level information is sufficient for this survey; however, please retain adequate detailed documentation for audit purposes. If an item is not applicable, please note that on the form.

Use additional sheets if you need to provide further explanatory information.

If you have any questions, call Doris Tucker at (202)564-2495.

Please return the survey no later than July 31, 2017

Facility Name: Safety and Sustainability Division

Contact Person(s): Dave Gibson

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Part I. Estimated Cleanup Costs at Closure of Facility

Clean up costs are costs EPA would incur under federal, state and/or local regulations to remove from, contain, or dispose of hazardous material located at an EPA facility and to restore (remediate any contamination) the facility if, or when, there is a decision to close the facility. Even though the Agency may not have any plans to close a site, EPA is still required to disclose any future cleanup costs stemming from the existence of the site. **Cleanup costs may include:**

- Decontamination
- Decommissioning
- Site restoration
- Site monitoring
- Closure, and
- Post closure costs

Additional examples:

- Costs to close out Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) licenses and permits
- Costs to conduct Phase I studies.

Cleanup costs **do not include** costs from government-related events due to:

- Accidents
- Federal ongoing operations (e.g. routine disposal of hazardous waste).

Note: Please be sure to include any asbestos-related cleanup costs in your calculations.

A) According to the definition of cleanup costs presented above, would your facility have any future cleanup costs? (Please circle the appropriate response)

NO (YES)

B) If your response to question A is YES, for each facility, briefly describe the nature of the cleanup.

Description (e.g. Lab Decontamination) (Please identify separately any costs related to asbestos cleanup)	Estimated Cost	Unfunded	Funded	Amount Previously Reported
CHL/POS Decontamination	\$4,875,584.90	\$4,875,584.90	N/A	\$4,239,639.10
Sinks, Traps & Mercury	\$109,803.50	\$109,803.50	N/A	\$95,481.14
Fume Hoods Asbestos Cavity Panels	\$12,069.88	\$12,069.88	N/A	\$10,495.52
General Laboratory Decontamination	\$557,826.96	\$557,826.96	N/A	\$485,066.93
Lead Abatement (Bricks, Blocks, Foreign materials; Particles or Debris)	\$47,288.22	\$47,288.22	N/A	\$41,120.19
Chemicals (Not routine)	\$563,170.13	\$563,170.13	N/A	4489,713.16

Part II. Environmental Liabilities

EPA is required to report the estimated costs related to:

- Cleanup from federal operations resulting in hazardous waste
- Accidental damage to nonfederal property caused by federal operations, and
- Other damage to federal property caused by federal operations or natural forces.

The key to distinguishing between a future clean up cost versus an environmental liability is to determine whether the event (accident, damage, etc.) has already occurred and whether we can reasonably estimate the cost to remediate the site. **Environmental liabilities do not include the cost to shutdown a facility** (see Part I) or amounts filed with the Nuclear Regulatory Commission or other regulatory bodies as part of a licensing agreement as these events have not yet occurred.

Additional examples:

The costs related to the repair or removal of:

- A leaking underground storage tank at an EPA facility and the associated soil contamination
- Contaminated soil or water as a result of EPA's pesticide testing program

But not:

- The cost to upgrade tank piping systems to meet a new regulatory standard, where the existing system is not leaking
- Phase I environmental audits (these audits are conducted to determine if contamination exists). (See Part I.)

A) According to the definition of Environmental Liabilities presented above, does your facility have any Environmental Liabilities? (Please circle the appropriate response)

NO (YES)

B) If your response to question A is YES, for each liability, please report the site, location, type of contamination, and estimated cost to remediate. Amounts should be broken out by funded and unfunded dollars. If a cleanup project is currently underway, please report the total estimated cost as well as any funds expended to date.

Site & Location	Type of Contamination	Estimated Cost Funded or Unfunded
NERL- Las Vegas CHL & POS	Radiation	\$4,875,584.90
NERL- Las Vegas CHL & POS	Lead/Mercury	\$109,803.50
NERL- Las Vegas CHL & POS	Chemicals	\$563,170.13
NERL – Las Vegas CHL & POS	Asbestos Fume Hood panels	\$12,069.88

ATTACHMENT III

DEFINITIONS

Hazardous Waste - A solid, liquid, or gaseous waste, or combination of these wastes, which because of its quantity, concentration, or physical, chemical, or infectious characteristics may cause or significantly contribute to an increase in mortality or an increase in serious irreversible, or incapacitating reversible, illness or pose a substantial present or potential hazard to human health or the environment when improperly treated, stored, transported, disposed of, or otherwise managed.

Clean up Costs - The costs of removing, containing, and/or disposing of (1) hazardous waste from property, or (2) material and/or property that consists of hazardous waste at permanent or temporary closure or shutdown of associated plant, property or equipment.

Probable - That which can reasonably be expected or believed to be more likely than not on the basis of available evidence or logic but which is neither certain nor proven.

Measurable - Can be determined with reasonable certainty or is reasonably estimable.

**CERTIFICATION OF THE COMPLETION OF THE
FISCAL YEAR 2017 SURVEY OF EPA'S ENVIRONMENTAL LIABILITIES and
CLEAN-UP COSTS.**

I hereby certify that the information on this form is accurate and in compliance of both qualitative and quantitative information as required by A136.

Robert W. Andrews Jr. (Facility Manager)

Name / Title

Signature / Title

Date

Please e-mail response in PDF format to:

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